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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/597,589	09/04/2008	Shinji Furusho	YOSHID0026	3392

24203 7590 09/07/2011
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EXAMINER

CAMPOS, YAIMA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2185

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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09/07/2011

ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/597,589	Applicant(s) FURUSHO, SHINJI	
	Examiner YAIMA CAMPOS	Art Unit 2185	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 July 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ An election was made by the applicant in response to a restriction requirement set forth during the interview on ____; the restriction requirement and election have been incorporated into this action.
- 4) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 3-14 and 16-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 5a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-14 and 16-25 is/are rejected.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 9) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 10) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 31 July 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☒ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>7/31/2006</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

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DETAILED ACTION

1. As per the instant Application having Application No. 10/597,589, the examiner acknowledges the applicant's submission of the preliminary amendment dated 7/31/2006. At this point, claims 1, 3-14 and 16-25 have been amended, and claims 2 and 15 have been canceled. Claims 1, 3-14 and 16-25 are pending.

INFORMATION CONCERNING OATH/DECLARATION

Oath/Declaration

2. The applicant's oath/declaration has been reviewed by the examiner and is found to conform to the requirements prescribed in **37 C.F.R. 1.63**.

STATUS OF CLAIM FOR PRIORITY IN THE APPLICATION

3. The instant Application having Application No. 10/597,589, filed 09/04/2008 is a national stage entry of PCT/JP2005/000886, International Filing Date: 01/25/2005 and claims foreign priority to JP 2004-020828, filed 01/29/2004.

4. Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority based on an application filed in JP 2004-020828 on 1/29/2004. It is noted, however, that applicant has not filed a certified copy of the foreign application as required by 35 U.S.C. 119(b).

INFORMATION CONCERNING DRAWINGS

Drawings

6. The applicant's drawings submitted are acceptable for examination purposes.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT

7. As required by **M.P.E.P. 609(C)**, the applicant's submissions of the Information Disclosure Statements dated 7/31/2006 is acknowledged by the examiner and the cited references have been considered in the examination of the claims now pending. As required by **M.P.E.P 609 C(2)**, a copy of the PTOL-1449 initialed and dated by the examiner is attached to the instant office action.

OBJECTIONS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Claim Objections

8. Claims 4 are objected to because of the following informalities:
9. As per claim 4, this claim is objected to because it depends on canceled claim 2.
10. Appropriate correction is required.

REJECTIONS NOT BASED ON PRIOR ART

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

11. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

12. Claims 1, 3 and 4-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

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13. As per claim 1, it is not clear to which of the recited list of values of a first item or list of values of a second item, the limitation "the value list" (line 14) refers to.

14. As per claim 10, the limitations "value list of the first item... value list of the second item... value list of the first item and the value list of the second item" (lines 20-22) lacks antecedent basis in the claims since the claim previously recites "each module retains a list of values of a plurality of items" and "value lists of combinations of plural unification items including a first item, or a second item... or a first item and a second item"; however, these previously recited lists do not define a value list of a first item, a value list of a second item.

15. As per claim 23, the limitations "value list of the first item... value list of the second item... " (step d) lacks antecedent basis in the claims since the claim previously recites "each module retains a list of values of a plurality of items" and "value lists of combinations of plural unification items including a first item, or a second item... or a first item and a second item"; however, these previously recited lists do not define a value list of a first item and a value list of a second item.

16. Dependent claims 3, 4-9, 11-13 and 24-25 are rejected for encompassing the deficiencies of rejected base claims upon which they depend.

CLOSING COMMENTS

a. STATUS OF CLAIMS IN THE APPLICATION

a(1) CLAIMS REJECTED IN THE APPLICATION

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17. Per the instant office action, claims 1,3-13 and 16-25 have received a first action on the merits and are subject of a first action non-final.

a(2) CLAIMS ALLOWED IN THE APPLICATION

18. Per the instant office action, claims 14 and 16-21 are considered as allowable subject matter.

19. Claims 1, 3-13 and 23-25 would be allowable if the 35 USC 112 second paragraph rejections and objections above are overcome.

The reasons for which claims 1, 10, 14 and 23 are considered to contain allowable subject matter is that the prior art of record, neither anticipates, nor renders obvious the recited combinations as a whole.

Dependent claims 3-9, 11-13, 16-21 and 24-25 would be allowable by virtual of their dependence on claims that are considered to contain allowable subject matter.

b. DIRECTION OF FUTURE CORRESPONDENCES

20. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yaima Campos whose telephone number is (571) 272-1232, and email address is yaima.campos@uspto.gov . The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

21. If attempts to reach the above noted Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Mr. Sanjiv Shah, can be reached at the following telephone number: Area Code (571) 272-4098.

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The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

August 30, 2011

/Yaima Campos/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2185